

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 8-10, 15, and 16 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicants cancel withdrawn claims 5-7 and 12-14 without prejudice or disclaimer. Although the Examiner was authorized to cancel these claims during a telephone interview on July 28, 2008, Applicants cancel the claims by this Amendment to complete the record.

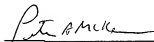
The aforementioned authorization was given in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed July 11, 2008 requiring the cancellation of withdrawn claims 5-7 and 12-14 to place the application in condition for immediate allowance. However, as no Notice of Allowance was mailed in this case for an extended period of time, Applicants' representative contacted the Examiner on November 19, 2009 regarding the status of the case. The Examiner indicated that a Non-Final Office Action will soon be issued in this case because the method claims 1-3 and 15 allegedly do not comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 101. Specifically, in view of new guidelines given to the Examiners in the USPTO, the Examiner indicated that he needs to ensure that the method claims are tied to a machine (e.g., see Interview Summary mailed December 2, 2008, and Statement of Substance of Interview filed December 23, 2008).

However, no Office Action has been issued to this date. Accordingly, to expedite prosecution, Applicants file this Amendment amending claims 1 and 15. In particular, claims 1 and 15 have been amended to recite, in some variation - "determining, by a decoder, whether to perform motion compensation on motion-vector-decoded data or not depending on a value of a decoded motion vector". This amendment is supported by *at least* FIG. 6 of the drawings. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claim complies with *at least* the first part of the "machine or transformation" test.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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